SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INTERCEPTING PACKETS IN A PIPELINE
NETWORK PROCESSOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a pipeline network processor, a packet intercept
feature determines whether a packet is to be intercepted
based on the inbound and outbound port through which the
packet travels and based on the source and destination of
the packet. When a packet enters the pipeline network
processor, a determination is made as to whether the
inbound and outbound ports are enabled for packet
intercept. If so, a source and/or destination media
access control address is compared to a list of
configured intercept addresses. If a match is found, a
copy of the packet is diverted to an intercept receiver
and the original packet is forwarded to its intended
destination.